

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-05 OMB-01

PA-02 PRS-01 DODE-00 /060 W

----- 113264

R 241711Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9134

INFO GAESBG/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 2202

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS QUITO 1490

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, CO, EC

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS

REF: QUITO 1480

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN A PRESENTATION BEFORE THE QUITO ROTARY CLUB FEB. 18, COLOMBIAN AMB TO ECUADOR, GILBERTO ECHEVERRY, MADE A HARD-HITTING ATTACK AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND URGED A UNIFIED CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUGS BY AFFECTED COUNTRIES. HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE PROBLEM IS NOT EXCLUSIVELY ONE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THAT IT HAS A CORRUPTING INFLUENCE ON ANY NATION THAT IT TOUCHES. END SUMMARY

2. AS REPORTED IN EL COMERCIO OF FEB. 23, THE COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO ECUADOR, GILBERTO ECHEVERRY, USED THE OCCASION OF A QUITO ROTARY CLUB SPEECH FEB. 18 TO BLAST THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC OF NARCOTICS AND TO URGE AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS WEAPONS IN THE BATTLE AGAINST DRUGS.

3. SPECIFICALLY, ECHEVERRY TRACED THE BEGINNING OF THE DRUG PROBLEM TO THE ORIGINS OF MANKIND. IN THE MODERN DAY
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TRAFFIC, HE SAID, THE DRUGS ORIGINATE IN PARAGUAY, ARE

TREATED IN BOLIVIA AND PERU, AND ARE THEN CHanneled THROUGH ECUADOR TO COLOMBIA WHERE THEY ARE REFINED AND SHIPPED TO THE US.

4. ON THE FACE OF THE QUESTION, SAID ECHEVERRY, DRUGS WOULD SEEM TO BE AN AMERICAN PROBLEM, BUT ANALYSIS WILL DEMONSTRATE THAT EACH COUNTRY ALONG THE PATCH OF THE DRUGS SUFFERS CORRUPTION AS WELL. DRUG USE, BRIBERY, EXTORTION AND THREATS ARE USED IN ALL COUNTRIES BY BANDS OF TRAFFICKERS. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, HE SAID THAT FIFTEEN AIRPLANES LAND CLANDESTINELY IN COLOMBIA DAILY FOR TRANSSHIPMENT OF DRUGS AND THAT IN ECUADOR, ALTHOUGH AMOUNTS ARE CURRENTLY SMALL, THE TRAFFIC IS BECOMING MORE WIDELY DISPERSED.

5. ECHEVERRY URGED AN ATTITUDE OF COMPASION FOR THE DRUG USER BUT STIFF PUNISHMENT FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN COMMERCE. HE ADVOCATED CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DRUG AGENCIES OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES. IN HIS PRESENTATION BE QUOTED USG DRUG EXPERT, ROBERT DUPONT, AT LENGTH.

6. INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE COMPLETE ECHEVERRY TEXT WILL BE POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY BOGOTA, S/NM, AND THE DESK.
BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, DRUG CONTROL, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760069-0962
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760219/aaaaaqec.tel
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